

blessings were dispensed at the hands of monks and nuns we have ample testimony from numerous and impartial writers, both Catholic and Protestant. Kenelm Digby, a Catholic, vouches for the fact in that noble monument of his pen *Mores Catholici* or Ages of Faith, as does Mantland, a Protestant, in his *History of the Middle Ages*.

The perusal of those instructive pages cannot but convince us that Europe would have remained in a condition of semi-barbarism for an indefinite period had not the enlightened zeal, the patient industry, and ardent charity of the medieval monk played their part, and played it well on the stage of the medieval world. And yet the modern world goes on traducing their memory and persecuting their successors, crying out as of old, "Away with them, give us rather the Barrabbas of agnosticism, indifferentism and unbelief."

Cath. Review.

What the Indian Territory Owes to the Monks

AS TOLD BY A NON-CATHOLIC PEN IN A NON-CATHOLIC WEEKLY.

From the original discovery of America, the Catholic Church has ever manifested a deep interest in the Indian missionary work, and its representatives have carried the Gospel and education into the wilds of the new countries, paving the way for civilization by many hardships that, of necessity, had to be undergone before permanent institutions could be established.

Many years ago, the Benedictines entered the Indian Territory and have gradually and persistently progressed, increasing the number as well as the influence of their schools, until they now have them scattered all over the Territory, and have facilities for reaching every part that can be brought under the influence of this great work of humanity.

The Catholic schools in the two Territories now number eleven; nine of which are mission schools and are located in the Indian Territory.

These institutions comprise convents and boys' schools, and all persons of Indian blood are educated free. The good work has been going on a number of years and the results have been found very satisfactory to those in charge.

The Indian is not adverse to learning and is easily disciplined. If there is any difference between white children and those of partial Indian blood in the capacity for learning, it is thought to be in favor of the Indian who is especially bright on anything mechanical.

Father Vincent, who has general supervision of the school at this place, is a pioneer in the missionary work. He is originally from sunny France, went from there to Ireland where he stayed two years, after which he came direct to the work in the Territory with which he has been identified for the past eleven years, during which time he has not been out of the Territory. He first located at the Sacred Heart Mission 40 miles east of this place in the Pottawatomie country, but when Purcell was established in 1887 he came here and founded the present school. One year later, Miss C. Drexel of Philadelphia, the young lady that has given her millions for charity, donated funds to build the convent, and it was given in charge of the Franciscan Sisters. It is called St. Elizabeth's, and is a large, commodious building for the girls' school, it can accommodate fifty boarders. With the improvements it cost upwards of \$7,000. Together with the other buildings it is beautifully located on high ground, north of the city where the Catholics have ten acres of ground, upon which is situated the convent, boys' school, priest's residence and the Church of "Our Lady of Victory." This is a handsome new edifice, erected